

## TEAMWORK BRINGING ACCESS TO HOUSE, SENATE BILLS



*Working Together (L-R): Mark Krish, network analyst from the Michigan House of Representatives helps technology analyst David Lamb (center) and NIS director Paul Groll from the Library of Michigan connect a server for the new network.*

tronically to the Library of Michigan and updated every few minutes. Network & Information Systems staff members have created a separate network server that will move the public information onto the Internet via the Library of Michigan web site. This public access will be possible through the Library of Michigan's existing links to electronic networks.

"Once the installation is completed – hopefully during April or May, Michigan residents will be able to use their own computers or those at public libraries across the state to access legislative information," Needham points out. "We're pleased that our staff has the technical knowledge and experience to create and then tie various servers and networks together, so that the information can be used immediately and by various levels of users."

This system for public access to legislative data is an interim solution for the next two years. House, Senate and Legislative Service Bureau staff are continuing to develop a state-of-the-art bill drafting and legislative database. When the new system is complete, the Library of Michigan will continue to provide public access through the Internet.

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When a National Conference of State Legislatures staff study recommended several years ago that the Michigan Legislature modernize its bill drafting and make the legislative process more accessible to state residents, the Library of Michigan was ready to assist. As various groups across the state from handicappers to librarians have sought more and faster information about House and Senate bills and Michigan Compiled Laws, the Library – with the Legislature – began working on ways to make this possible.

By mid 1997, work by the state House, Senate, Legislative Service Bureau and the Library should bear fruit. This fall, all state residents will be able to gain access to House and Senate bills as soon as they are introduced, as well as existing Michigan Compiled Laws.

"We think this represents a historic level of cooperation between the legislature and its library," says state librarian George Needham. "This has made possible a comprehensive plan for the networking together of several state buildings involved in the legislative process."

"Expert staff from all these agencies have worked together to link previously unconnected computers so that information can be transferred seamlessly from one system to another," he said. "The public won't even realize how many intricate steps are involved in the process when the system comes online."

Actually two discrete computer networks will distribute the information. The first is secure and access will be restricted to the legislature and their immediate staff members. Information will be routed elec-

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**Access** (ISSN 1051-0818) publishes information about the Library of Michigan and its activities plus other materials of interest to the Michigan library community. Please direct comments or questions to:

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fax 517-373-5700 or  
517-373-3381.

## GROENING RESIGNS FROM LIBRARY

Joan M. Groening resigned January 31 as Federal Programs Division director at the Library of Michigan to accept the position of chief financial officer of the Michigan Public Health Initiative. State librarian George M. Needham accepted her resignation with regret and with thanks for all she has accomplished for the Library.

"Joan joined the Library in July 1989, and the first major responsibility she faced was putting the Library's participation in the LSCA program in order," Needham said. "She did this with speed and efficiency, and now the Library's LSCA program is seen as a nationwide model." During her tenure as Federal Programs Division director, the Library introduced internet training sites and access grants, an in-house training center and outreach to other types of libraries.

The Michigan Public Health Initiative is the non-profit corporation which coordinates the work of the state's recently privatized public health agencies.

## FOUR NAMED TO BOARD

Bonnie Gasperini of Northville, Central Michigan University dean of libraries Thomas J. Moore, Farmington Community Library director Beverly D. Papai, and Lois S. Pawlusiak, librarian for Detroit Psychiatric Institute, have received three-year appointments (1997-99) to the Library of Michigan board of trustees from Governor John Engler.

Gasperini replaces Richard D. McLellan of Lansing representing the general public. Moore was reappointed as the academic library representative. Papai succeeds Margaret E. Auer of University of Detroit Mercy as the Michigan Library Association representative. Pawlusiak will represent special/institutional libraries.

## BEGINNING WORKSHOP SET FOR NORTH CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE

A week-long introduction to public librarianship covering organization of library materials, reference, administrative policies, library law, cataloging and selection, public relations, children's services and much more is coming May 18-23 to North Central Michigan College, Petoskey.

Full registration (\$260) includes single room occupancy in shared dormitory suites with cafeteria style meals, break refreshments, local library tours, evening with an author dinner, text-book and workshop handouts.

Registration is limited to 50 participants, with priority given to personnel in libraries which must meet state aid requirements. Completion of this workshop (full attendance, six days) is required for a Level VII Certificate of Library Experience (3.2 CEUs).

Registration check-in will be Sunday 4:00-5:00 p.m. followed by opening program and dinner. On Monday-Thursday an 8:00-5:00 p.m. schedule is planned, with occasional evening presentations and special events. Closing will be Friday at 3:00 p.m.

Deadline for registration and payment is April 11. For more information, call Elaine Harrison at 517-373-1395 or Tish Kingaby at 517-373-5511. No refunds will be given after May 9.

## LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS/DECISION MAKERS TELECONFERENCE IS APRIL 4

A teleconference titled "A Survivor's Guide to Using Electronic Resources and Services Intelligently" is coming to the Library of Michigan Forum in Lansing on Friday, April 4 from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. It is the second part of "Dancing with...Change," one of the most important library teleconferences of the '90s, designed to offer today's top library thinkers a practical and realistic results-oriented approach. The teleconference is designed for library professionals and decision makers. Speakers will include Michael Gorman, Betsy Baker, Arthur Curley and others.

Topics to be covered include •Decision Time, •Setting priorities, •Planning to spend money wisely, •Document delivery, •Expanding Learning, •New library instruction (LI): teaching critical thinking, computerized LI, •New Libraries, •Virtual library service as an enhancement, not a replacement, and •Libraries with and without walls. There is no cost to attend.

For reservations, please RSVP to Donna Holdridge at the Library of Michigan, 517-373-1587, by March 28. Limited space is available.

# AMERITECH GRANTS \$166,666 FOR LIBRARY INTERNET DEVELOPMENT



*Presenting the first installment check for Ameritech's \$166,666 grant to Library of Michigan Foundation executive director S. Mark Terman (left) and state librarian George Needham (center) was Ameritech's Senior Director – Business Development Ronald F. Gee.*

An Internet Training and Support Proposal grant has been awarded to the Library of Michigan Foundation by Ameritech Interactive Media Services, Inc. (AIMS) of Troy for \$166,666. The money will be used to develop Internet training and support for Michigan public libraries, K-12 schools and community colleges.

This grant is a component of AIMS' \$1.5 million commitment to support networking training activities designed to meet the needs of the K-12, community college and public library communities. The Library of Michigan joins the eight regional hubs created in Michigan through the Shareable Earnings Program in receiving grants to support activities within four broad categories: basic Internet training, technical training, curriculum integration and content development. The Michigan public library project was developed with the public library cooperatives and addresses content development.

The "Building a Community Information Tool Kit" project will create specific tools designed to assist public library staff in developing the expertise needed to be community leaders in delivering local electronic information.

"The access grants and Internet Training Centers have helped our libraries to become effective consumers of the Internet," said state librarian George M. Needham. "This grant will

take us to the next level as we become publishers as well."

## ***Elements of the Community Information Tool Kit Program***

The planned tool kit has the following components:

- Guidelines for developing an electronic community information mission;
- Guidelines for forming partnerships with community organizations;
- Methods for selecting, soliciting, organizing, converting and maintaining content;
- Materials conversion issues and solutions;
- Curricula for providing training on materials conversion and local site implementation;
- Recommendations on each local site hardware and software.

Each of these components is critical to the success of a local community information project, and relates directly to the roles that public libraries, local educators and community leaders are expected to play within their communities. This project provides training tools that are urgently needed.

In addition to developing the tool kit, its value will be demonstrated in two Michigan communities. In one demonstration model a collection of resources selected by one Michigan community will be identified, converted,

organized and maintained to address the social, health care and recreational needs of its blind and physically handicapped residents.

In another model the Library of Michigan will work with a second community to identify, convert, organize and maintain a collection of resources selected to bring the cultural, historical and governmental aspects of its community to the information superhighway.

The tool kit will be made available to all participants in the Ameritech grant program, and most of it will also be made available on the Library of Michigan's web server. Additionally, elements of the tool kit will be periodically updated by the Library of Michigan in concert with the staff supporting the Internet Training Centers.

Library officials noted that in Michigan the public library is beginning to play an important role in local communities by actively participating:

- As a community leader bringing Internet access to their part of the state via local dial in services;
- As an organizer of network services to make it easier for their clients to navigate the increasingly complex webs of electronic information;
- As a provider of local community information in electronic formats;
- As a teacher of these new technologies to their adult clients, who are often uncomfortable with sophisticated information systems. This grant provides the first steps toward making these goals become realities.

Implementation of the project began with the March meeting of the Michigan NII Council on Continuing Education (NIICCE). NIICCE members participated in a discussion of the project via a compressed video conference at six sites across the state. NIICCE and its representatives from the Internet Training Centers will play an important role in this project. For further information about this grant, please contact Eileen M. Palmer at the Library of Michigan.



# 5TH RURAL LIBRARY CONFERENCE IS APRIL 30 - MAY 2

A record attendance is anticipated for 1997's April 30 to May 2 Fifth Rural Library Conference, and the planning committee has done an exceptional job of preparing a relevant, interesting and informative meeting opportunity for library employees and board members from Michigan's rural and small libraries. Highlights include:

- Two major keynote speakers
- Michigan authors
- Trustee track on May 1
- An evening of storytelling
- Awards dinner
- CEUs for all programming
- Exhibitors and Demonstrations.

Thanks to funding from a federal Library Services & Construction Act grant administered by the Library of Michigan and by a gift from the Library of Michigan Foundation's Loleta Fyan Fund, a full conference registration is only \$65 per person, covering all sessions and meals from Wednesday lunch through Friday lunch. One-day registration is also offered for \$35. 1.0 CEU is available.

Conference registration deadline is April 15, and payment must accompany the registration form. Because space is limited, organizers believe this year's conference will be another sell-out.

Overnight accommodations should be arranged directly with the Grand Traverse Resort, which has reserved a block of rooms for the Conference with a special rate. Reservations should be made as soon as possible, but no later than March 29.

## Internet Room

An Internet Room, sponsored by the Library of Michigan, Merit Network, Inc. and NuGen Systems Inc. will be available to conference attendees all day Wednesday and Thursday. Library of Michigan staff and librarians from around the state will be available to assist both beginners and seasoned Internet users. Attendees are encouraged to stop by.

## Wednesday Schedule

The Wednesday, April 30 program begins at 12:30 p.m. with an **opening luncheon and keynote address** by Jim Mc-



Peak, Cuyahoga County (Ohio) Public Library. He will present an inspirational and humorous talk about the day-to-day operations of a small library.

Concurrent Sessions: from 3:00 - 4:30 will include **\*Emergency planning**: Is your library prepared to handle an emergency? **\*Marketing and public relations**: A positive image for you and your library. **\*LSTA Forum**: Outlines the progression from LSCA to LSTA. **\*Bits, bytes, RAM, ROM: What's a person to do?**: Come learn the vocabulary and basics of computing. **\*Storytelling**: Ways to incorporate storytelling into ongoing library programming, class visits and outreach.

**Opening of exhibits / all conference reception** is from 4:30-6:30 p.m., followed at 6:30 by **Dinner**, featuring Michigan author Sue Harrison and entertainment. Topic is *The Magic Kingdom*: A celebration of the joys and wonders of books and the libraries that make them available and will be sponsored by the Michigan Library Association.

## Thursday Schedule

Following **Breakfast** from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m., concurrent sessions from 8:30 - 10:00 include: **\*Surviving a building/remodeling project**. **\*Public library administration**: Covering basic concepts of public library administration: management, organization and planning. **\*Alien Landscapes**: Reviews of old and new science fiction and fantasy. **\*56K, ISDN, T1: Understanding how to connect to the Internet**: Connectivity options and a preview of potential discounts offered to libraries through the universal service fund. **\*Choosing the bait and reeling them in: How to select and sell books to children**.

Concurrent Sessions from 10:30 - 12:00 are **\*Working with your architect**. **\*Human resources**: Survival tips for libraries. **\*What every library trustee needs to know**. **\*Eureka! Discovering gold on the Web**: The Michigan Electronic Library. **\*Young adults in the library**: How to get them in and keep them happy.

The 12:15 - 2:00 p.m. **Luncheon program** will feature George Needham, State Librarian. From 2:00 - 3:00 there will be **free time to visit the exhibit area**, then concurrent sessions from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. These will include: **\*Space planning**. **\*Connecting to alternative funding sources**. **\*Chop the clues! Baste the bodies! Chill the crook!** **\*Libraries and financial management**. **\*The ins and outs and the inspirations of illustrating** with Lori McElrath-Eslick, Michigan book illustrator.

The **Awards Dinner** from 5:30- 7:00 will be followed at 7:30 with **A gaggle of geese, an exultation of sparrows and a glory of stories: An evening with storytellers** sponsored by MLA.

## Friday Schedule

Beginning with **Breakfast** from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m., concurrent sessions from 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. include: **\*Funding a building/remodeling project**. **\*Friends of the library**. **\*Really good books that read like fiction but aren't**. **\*Basics of Local Area Networks (LANs)**. **\*Sensational, super, sizzling summer showcase panel**.

Concurrent Sessions from 10:30 - 12:00 are: **\*Library law update**. **\*Evita, Beavis and Butthead meet the English Patient**. **\*Training the public on the Internet**. **\*State aid, Penal fines and Certification**. **\*Michigan through the eyes of Michigan author Larry Massey**.

The 12:00 **Luncheon program** will conclude with wrap up comments coordinated by Roger Mendel, Alpena County Library.

If you are planning to attend and would like a conference flyer with a registration form and Grand Traverse Resort Accommodations Request Form, please write to:  
**Loleta Fyan Rural Libraries Conference  
Library of Michigan  
P. O. Box 30007  
Lansing, MI 48909**

or call Bryon Sitler at 517-373-2548 or fax to 517-373-5700. You also can send e-mail to bsitler@libofmich.lib.mi.us.

## MI NEWSPAPER PROJECT WORK CONTINUES



Indexing Michigan newspapers at the Library of Michigan for the Michigan newspaper project is proceeding well, and staff are now beginning to meet with other project partners as their work moves statewide. This project review recently took place in Lansing and involved (from left): Michigan Newspaper Project manager Marni Schlesinger; library assistant Jane Hyden; Jeff Field, deputy director, National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Preservation and Access; cataloger Lise Hedin; U.S. Newspaper Project coordinator Bob Harriman from the Library of Congress; and collection management services division director Kathleen Menanteaux.

## DISTANCE LEARNING COMES ONLINE



**Distance Learning: State and National Perspectives**, were explored at the Library of Michigan January 31 during a conference sponsored by the Michigan Association for Distance Learning (MADL). Included on a panel discussion were (from left): Michael Ammann, director of economic development, office of technology transfer, University of Michigan; George Koron, business development manager, government business unit, Hewlett-Packard, Kansas City, MO; Bruce Droste, project director, Virtual High School Consortium, Concord, MA; Kenneth Salomon, partner, Dow, Lohnes, & Albertson, PLLC, Washington, D.C.; and Linda Schatz, director, Michigan Information Network, Lansing. Facilitator (right) was Jim Greene, Lansing Community College.



## LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN WINS KEPPEL AWARD

State librarian George Needham and federal programs manager Naomi Krefman each hold an abacus representing the Francis Keppel Award, presented to the Library of Michigan by the Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data, a cooperative program of the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) and the U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS). The award is made annually to qualifying chief officers of state library agencies and state data coordinators for submitting the most prompt, complete and high quality public library data.

## LSTA SEMINARS GOING WELL



It takes a major effort to plan and attend 18 sessions across Michigan and obtain input for the new federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) that goes into effect next year, but Library of Michigan staffers have done just that. Attendance has ranged from 10 to 70 persons, and consistently excellent feedback has been received. All this will be used to formulate a statewide plan for distribution of future LSTA funds to Michigan libraries. Two changes from previous LSCA programs include an attempt to involve all types of libraries in multitype grant initiatives and an easing of federal rules and requirements.

## SUE DAVIDSEN JOINS MERIT

**Sue Davidsen**, senior associate librarian with the University of Michigan Library, joined the staff of Merit Network, Inc., as a librarian on January 20. To foster closer ties with the library community and a better appreciation of library interests and needs, she will serve as Merit's liaison to the Michigan library community.

As part of Merit's effort to bolster and encourage community networking, access and contribution to Internet content, she will also be Merit's community information coordinator to further the development of community information resources in the state. Sue will continue in her role with the University Library's MLink Program as director of Collections & System Development for the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL).

As creator of the first virtual library on the Internet, Sue is recognized as a pioneer in the organization of Internet information and content development. She has spoken throughout North America and in England about libraries and the Internet and is a respected trainer in World Wide Web content development and design.

Sue has received several awards from library organizations including the Government Documents Round Table and the Michigan Library Association for her work to bring information to the citizens of the state of Michigan and her creative use of technology.

Merit is a nonprofit networking and communications corporation based at the University of Michigan with over 30 years of experience in the networking field. Merit is owned by eleven of Michigan's public universities and has affiliates encompassing libraries, K-12 schools, community colleges, businesses, and nonprofit organizations.

## MANY GPO ACCESS DATABASES ONLINE VIA MEL

More than two dozen federal databases are available online via the **Michigan Electronic Library (MEL)** from the Government Printing Office (GPO) Access. Databases are added and updated regularly. By simply going to MEL (<http://mel/lib.mi.us>) you can select the WAIS databases you want to search. After going to the **Government, Politics & Law** section, go to **US Government** then to **General Government Resources**, where GPO Access is the first listing. You also can bookmark this service directly at: <http://mel/lib.mi.us.gpo/>. Included are:

- ◆ **Federal Register & Unified Agenda**, 1994 forward
- ◆ **The Budget of the United States Government** (Fiscal Year 1997) (Fiscal Year 1998)
- ◆ **Campaign Reform Hearing**
- ◆ **Congressional Bills**, 103d Congress (1993-1994) forward
- ◆ **Congressional Calendars - House**, 104th Congress (1995-1996) forward
- ◆ **Congressional Calendars - Senate**, 104th Congress (1995-1996) forward
- ◆ **Congressional Directory**, 1995-1996, 1997-1998
- ◆ **Congressional Documents**, 104th Congress (1995-1996) forward
- ◆ **Congressional Record**, 1994 (103rd Congress, Second Session) forward
- ◆ **Congressional Reports**, 104th Congress (1995-1996) forward
- ◆ **Department of the Interior – Reports of the Office of the Inspector General (IG)**
- ◆ **Economic Indicators**, 104th Congress (1995-1996) forward
- ◆ **Economic Report of the President 1996**
- ◆ **GAO Comptroller General Decisions**, October 1995 forward
- ◆ **General Accounting Office (GAO) Reports**, October 1994 forward
- ◆ **Government Information Locator Service (GILS) Records**: (Identifies public information resources throughout the federal government, describes what is in the resource and provides assistance in obtaining the information).
- ◆ **Government Manual**
- ◆ **GPO Access User Guide**
- ◆ **History of Bills**, 1994 forward
- ◆ **House Rules Manual**
- ◆ **Privacy Act Issuances**, 1993 & 1995 Compilations
- ◆ **Public Laws**, 104th Congress (1994-1995) forward
- ◆ **Supreme Court Decisions** (1937-1975)
- ◆ **United States Code**

If you would like assistance in finding and using these resources via the Library of Michigan's gateway, please call the Library's Reference Desk at **517-373-1300**.

You also can access the Government Printing Office directly at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/>. In addition, you can contact the Government Printing Office **GPO Access User Support Team** directly by Internet e-mail at [gpoaccess@gpo.gov](mailto:gpoaccess@gpo.gov); by telephone at 1-202-512-1530 or toll free at 1-888-293-6498; or by fax at 1-202-512-1262.



*An obnoxious odor filled the Berkley Public Library in January causing concern to library staff and patrons. After extensive investigation, officials discovered the source was a surprise visit by the popular children's book character, The Stinky Cheese Man. About 35 kids and parents listened to the book, colored cheesy pictures and dined on different types of cheeses. They also had an instant picture taken with him, courtesy of the Friends of Berkley Public Library.*

## DESCRIBED VIDEOS VERY POPULAR



*When the Library of Michigan's Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped sent out a flyer in late January announcing their new described videos service (see January 1997 issue for details), they figured some of their patrons might be interested in the program. What they didn't anticipate was how many. They have already heard from nearly 300 patrons – more than the total number of described videos in the collection – within just a few weeks. Here Andrew Wilson (left) and Bill Berkhof of the LM staff review some of the incoming orders for described videos.*

## WSU OFFERS 2 MID-MICHIGAN CLASSES

"Electronic Access to Information" (LIS 616) 93903 will be offered for 3 credits on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 5:30-8:30 p.m. from June 27 to August 19 at Grand Rapids Public Library.

"Library Administration and Management" (LIS 704) 93908 (compressed format) will be offered for 3 credits in the Lake Huron Room at the Library of Michigan, Lansing. Sessions will be Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays on April 28 and 29 and on May 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 19 from 5:00-10:00 p.m. Contact Donna Sottile for details at 313-577-4682 or email: [dsottile@cms.cc.wayne.edu](mailto:dsottile@cms.cc.wayne.edu)



# NET Tips

Created to bring helpful tips to the Internet user, this column is a regular feature of the Library of Michigan's Access and is brought to you by the Michigan NII Council on Continuing Education (NIICCE). NIICCE members are committed to training and continuing education in the area of technology and electronic information to librarians, library staff, trustees and communities. Please feel free to share this column in various media formats.

## MEET BOBBY! THE FREE WEB DISABILITY ACCESS TEST PAGE

CAST is pleased to announce the official release of Bobby (<http://www.cast.org/bobby>), a web-based program designed to help developers more easily evaluate the extent to which their web pages meet suggested guidelines for disability access.

Bobby is made available to help prevent problems before they occur. CAST hopes to further the discussion regarding disability web access while increasing the likelihood that web page designers will consider access issues.

### WHAT DOES BOBBY DO?

In brief, Bobby is a graphical web-based program designed to help web site designers and graphic artists make their web pages accessible to the largest number of people. Bobby will help web page developers find design problems which prevent a page from being displayed correctly on different web browsers (*i.e.*, America On-Line, Netscape Navigator, Mosaic, Microsoft Explorer) without having to individually test the page on each of those programs. In addition, Bobby performs a series of tests to determine the ways in which a web site is inaccessible to those with disabilities like blindness, deafness or physical challenges. A load time analysis is also provided for graphic elements of the web page to help inform developers about the combined impact of large graphics and relatively slow modems.

Bobby does not break new ground in establishing access guidelines nor is it intended to. Bobby simply makes it easy for web page developers to test their pages against currently accepted guidelines. For those interested in testing a complex or large web site rather than a small selection of pages, directions are provided for downloading the Bobby source code which may be run on your site. The method for accomplishing this is described in the Bobby manual. Please email [cast@cast.org](mailto:cast@cast.org) for further information regarding this option.

### WHAT IS CAST?

CAST is a not-for-profit research and development organization that concentrates on expanding opportunities for people with disabilities through the innovative development and application of technology. CAST is dedicated to the concept of Universal Design, building access and support directly into products and curriculum from the beginning rather than retrofitting special technologies at a later stage of development. If you want to learn more about CAST and the work that they do, please visit their home page at <http://www.cast.org/>.

– Reprinted from a posting to Diglib, an email discussion list

The Michigan National Information Infrastructure Council on Continuing Education (NIICCE) meets four times a year to share information. The next meeting is June 5, 1997 at the Library of Michigan in Lansing. If you would like more information about NIICCE or to attend the next meeting, please contact Anne Donohue at 517-373-5508 or email to: [adonohue@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:adonohue@libofmich.lib.mi.us).

## HACKLEY ONE OF 50 NATIONAL SITES

Hackley Public Library in Muskegon has been selected by *Poetry Magazine* - Modern Poetry Association (MPA) and the American Library Association (ALA) as one of 50 national demonstration sites to host "Poets in Person," a reading, listening, discussion program on modern American poetry.

Sponsored by the MPA and ALA and supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the project seeks to rekindle interest in poetry and revitalize the place of humanities in American society through the use of the "Poets in Person" National Public Radio series in conjunction with scholar-led reading and discussion programs in libraries.

A two-person project team of Marilyn Ryan, librarian and coordinator, and John Allen, scholar and discussion leader, will attend a national training seminar in June. In addition to their seminar expenses, the library will receive complete materials to host the program. The library's program will then serve as a model for others throughout the state and nationally.

Ryan has been an adult services librarian at Hackley since 1993. Allen holds a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in American Culture, is the winner of a Hopwood Prize in poetry, and is a respected *Muskegon Chronicle* columnist.

## RUFFNER RECEIVES WSU AWARD

James A. Ruffner, reference librarian and head of collection development at Wayne State University's Science and Engineering Library, received the 1996 G. Flint Purdy Memorial Award at the Wayne State University Library System Employee Recognition Ceremony on December 16.

He has been with WSU for 32 years and joined the Library System in 1978, having previously been a faculty member in Monteith College teaching general science classes. He was honored for his commitment to excellent service and his outstanding management of the University Libraries' collections. He is known throughout the Library System as a generous mentor always willing to share his knowledge and experience.

## NEED LM PUBLICATIONS?

You can call the Public Information Office at 517-373-5578 day or night for copies of Library of Michigan publications.

## **LIBRARY FOUNDATION REELECTS ZEHNDER, ENGLER**

Albert F. Zehnder has been reelected president of the Library of Michigan Foundation board of directors for 1997. He is president of Zehnder's of Frankenmuth where he directs all operations of Zehnder's Restaurant, the Fortress Golf Course and Zehnder's Bavarian Haus Motel. He has served on the Foundation board of directors since 1989.

Michigan First Lady Michelle Engler of Lansing was reelected vice president. Pamela G. DeVos of Ada was reelected secretary. Frank D. Stella, chairman and CEO of Detroit's F. D. Stella Products Company, was reelected treasurer.

Elected to additional three year terms on the board of directors were Mrs. Engler; Joe Fitzsimmons, retired chairman of UMI, a Bell & Howell Co. in Ann Arbor; and Thomas Lambert, executive vice president, CFO and treasurer of First of America Bank Corporation of Kal-amazoo. Fitzsimmons also is the former president of Friends of Libraries USA. Lambert serves as chairman of the Foundation's Finance Committee.

Zehnder earned a bachelor of arts degree from Valparaiso University in 1976, after which he joined Zehnder's of Frankenmuth. He has been a board member of the Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce and was its president in 1986-87. He also was named a Paul Harris fellow by the Frankenmuth chapter of Rotary International, is past president of the Frankenmuth Historical Museum board of trustees, and was a 1987-88 delegate to the Michigan Governor's Conference on Small Business. Zehnder, his wife and two children are Frankenmuth residents.

Located in the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing, the Library of Michigan Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) non profit organization that provides funding for major projects of the Library of Michigan and for public libraries and literacy councils across Michigan.

S. Mark Terman of Mason serves as Foundation executive director.

## **ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY AT "LIBRARIES WITHOUT WALLS"**

Adaptive technology and Internet access to meet the information needs of persons with visual or physical impairments will be shown during a Thursday, May 15 workshop at the Library of Michigan in Lansing. The conference is designed both for persons with impairments and for public, academic and school librarians who serve them.

"Adaptive technology ranges from computers that read pages of text out loud, to machines that enlarge the size of printed type or turn pages automatically," notes conference coordinator Scott J. Norris. "We will show new ways for special populations to receive information via the Internet, online catalogs and electronic media."

The 9:00 am to 4:00 pm conference will also include some 20 commercial exhibitors and organizations serving handicappers. They will have equipment available to use and demonstrate from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm. Conference registration is not required to view the exhibits only.

Joseph J. Lazzaro, author of "Adaptive Technologies for Learning & Work Environments" and "Adapting PCs for Disabilities" will keynote the day. He is director of the Adaptive Technology Program housed at the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind in Boston.

Other speakers include Michael J. Hudson, visual characteristics specialist with Handicapper Student Services at Michigan State University, who will demonstrate Internet access. June Hopaluk of Rochester Hills Public Library and Maria Danna, West Bloomfield Public Library, will also discuss libraries and adaptive technologies with Hudson.

Eileen M. Palmer, manager, statewide library technology programs for the Library of Michigan, will discuss funding sources for adaptive technology in libraries. Representatives of the Michigan Commission for the Blind, TECH 2000 and the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns will identify opportunities for collaboration and assistance in implementing adaptive technology.

The conference is provided at no cost to the first 200 registered participants, including lunch, through funding by the Library Services and Construction Act. Because of limited space, conference registration is recommended before May 1, and .5 CEUs will be provided. For more information, please contact Ceci Marlow, Library of Michigan, 517-373-5326 or [cemarlow@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:cemarlow@libofmich.lib.mi.us).

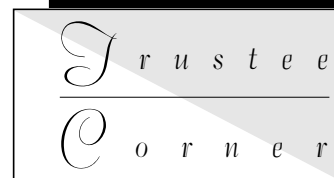
## **HONDA FOUNDATION FUNDS WSU INFORMATION TOOLS 2000**

Finding and applying the latest information are essential skills for today's students as they prepare to enter the workplace of tomorrow. These skills, also known as information literacy competencies, are especially needed by the health care worker of the 21st century to navigate efficiently through the vast electronic landscape of medical and scientific knowledge. To effectively prepare the health care students of today, the American Honda Foundation in Torrance, California, has provided approximately \$32,000 in seed funding for a model program, "Health Sciences Information Tools 2000," developed as a partnership between the Wayne State University Libraries' Vera P. Shiffman Medical Library and the Detroit Public Schools' Crockett Career and Technical Center.

The award from the American Honda Foundation will enable this unique partnership to add health care information literacy tools to the Crockett Center's Medical Assisting Program. The program will be offered to 11th and 12th grade students. Hands-on learning will focus on the many uses of health and scientific databases and navigation of the Internet's World Wide Web to identify high-quality information. Student learning experiences will promote teamwork as students work in groups to explore a variety of practical information challenges about terminology, health promotion and diseases. Specialized databases, available through user-cordial interfaces at the Medical Library in areas such as cancer, AIDS and consumer health, will be introduced. By using electronic and print information resources, students will increase their awareness of the requirements and the diversity of health care employment opportunities.



# OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT



The publicity surrounding amendments to the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act during the final days of the 1995-96 session of the Michigan Legislature attests to the importance of these acts to the citizens of the state. These Acts, both originally enacted in 1976, speak eloquently to the state's commitment to governmental accountability by mandating deliberations on public policy in the public forum and by ensuring citizens full and complete information about the affairs of government. In the past twenty years, both acts have been amended only after extensive and highly publicized debate.

Library Trustees are usually well acquainted with the Open Meetings Act, PA 267 of 1976, and take care that all of their deliberations and decisions are made in conformity with the Act. Since the 1996 amendments deal only with the hiring process for Michigan university presidents, they should not be a cause of great concern in the library community. At this time, Trustees of public libraries should simply review the act itself (found in the *Library Law Handbook*) for guidance.

The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), PA 442 of 1976, on the other hand, is less straightforward and calls for carefully drafted policies and procedures for adequate response. Libraries are included in the Act's definition of a "public body" and are subject to FOIA. The 1996 amendments make a number of changes: all requests under FOIA are to be in writing; the public body designates a FOIA coordinator to officially handle all FOIA requests; copies of the requests must be kept on file for no less than one year; and an appeal process within the public body is provided in addition to judicial appeal. The method of calculating the costs of compliance has also been changed.

Although FOIA requests may be "few and far between" in the typical public library, adequate training in the required procedures should be required for all staff. Public service staff, including student or part-time workers, should know where the FOIA request forms are stored and how to handle them. The FOIA coordinator must develop a clear understanding of the Act's provisions in regard to timely responses, records exempt from disclosure, and the calculation of costs. Ideally, the library should seek legal counsel for a review of any policies, written forms, and decisions to deny a request for information.

Trustees and staff alike must understand that the Library Privacy Act, PA 455 of 1982, specifically exempts "library records" from the disclosure requirements of the Freedom of Information Act. A library record is one that identifies a particular patron as having requested, used, or borrowed specific library materials.

The recommended course of action in this often complicated arena is to set aside time at Library Board meetings and staff meetings to review the Acts and to make appropriate changes to the library's policies and procedures. Compliance with the spirit and letter of the law is too important to us as citizens to leave to happenstance.

The amended versions of the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act will be included in the updated edition of the *Library Law Handbook*. For copies before publication, libraries should contact their library cooperatives or Ellen Richardson at the Library of Michigan.

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## FIVE WIN STUDENT WRITING CONTEST

Five Michigan students are sharing \$600 in cash awards for writing letters to favorite authors and telling how books made a difference in their lives. The national *Weekly Reader* student essay contest, "Letters about Literature," was co-sponsored statewide by the Michigan Center for the Book, a program of the Library of Michigan, Lansing.

This year's Michigan winner with a \$200 first prize is Mohiba Khan of Divine Child High School, Dearborn. Her letter was to Richard Selzer, author of *Mortal Lessons*. She resides in Dearborn and her teacher is Mrs. Closson.

Second place and \$150 goes to Amber Bulock of Eaton Rapids Middle School. Her teacher is Ms. Fogel. Receiving \$100 each for a third place tie are Detta Wilson of Otto Middle School, Lansing, whose teacher is Mrs. Plavnick, and Raemy Charest from Divine Child High School, Dearborn, also taught by Mrs. Closson.

Receiving honorable mention and \$50.00 is Ryan Shannon from Beagle Middle School, Grand Ledge. His teacher is Mrs. Burkle.

Runners-up in the statewide competition are:

- Marlynn Arao Uy Ben Dee, Divine Child High School, Dearborn
- Lindsay Brewer, Union City High School
- Candis Demko, Divine Child High School
- Karen Gardner, McPherson Middle School, Howell
- Matt Gelgota, Divine Child High School
- Sarah Ann Giza, Divine Child High School
- Marcie Holowicki, Divine Child High School
- Sunbae/Michael Kim, Divine Child High School
- Andrea Kulikowski, Divine Child High School
- Lisa Marsano, Bemis Junior High, Sterling Heights
- Mike Mikiciuk, Divine Child High School
- Jamie Mortens, Divine Child High School
- Benjamin Owens, Divine Child High School
- Gaia Reynolds-Stenson, Rockford Middle School
- Meredith Root-Bernstein, East Lansing High School
- Melissa Savage, Divine Child High School
- James Territo, Clarkston High School
- Dan Tylutki, Divine Child High School
- Sarita Warriar, Divine Child High School

For the contest, students in grades 6 and up addressed their entries/letters to a favorite author — living or deceased. Nationally the Library of Congress/Center for the Book partners with the *Weekly Reader* Corporation to organize the contest. This time, 849 entries from Michigan were collected at the *Weekly Reader* headquarters. State winners received prizes and the national winner earned a trip to Washington D.C.

Twenty-four letters were returned to Michigan as finalists for judging in the state level competition. The project is funded by the Michigan Center for the Book, the national Center for the Book at the Library of Congress and *Weekly Reader* magazine.

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## ARTS GRANTS MAKE \$1 MILLION AVAILABLE

Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) is soliciting arts and cultural grant applications for the 1998 fiscal year. Approximately \$1 million will be made available through the program.

Application deadline for all grant categories is May 1, 1997. Workshops statewide are answering questions for libraries and other cultural agencies regarding eligibility and how to complete forms for the program.

Grant guidelines, applications and technical assistance are available by contacting the Michigan Department of Consumer & Industry Services at 517-373-1820.

## NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR 4 AWARDS

Michigan Library Association is seeking nominees for four annual awards that will be presented during their 1997 fall conference. Nominations must be received by May 2.

**Librarian of the Year** recognizes an MLA member who has made outstanding contributions to effective and improved library service. This individual must have been instrumental in providing improved library service and must show evidence of personal and professional achievement, as well as initiative and creativity.

The **Loleta Fyan Award** is given to a librarian who has transformed a routine task or untried idea into an imaginative, creative service. The nominee must project a dynamic image of the professional librarian and be relatively new to the profession, not having worked in a professional position for more than 10 years.

The **Walter H. Kaiser Memorial Award** is given to a librarian, trustee or person associated with libraries who contributes an idea, procedure, concept or adaptation which results in the improvement of a library or libraries.

A library trustee who has made significant contributions in the development of local library service, promoted library cooperation, or worked effectively toward legislation or appropriations for libraries is sought for the **Trustee Citation of Merit**.

The MLA board also considers nominations for association **life membership**. Recipients who demonstrate a genuine interest in advancing the cause of MLA and the profession and have been employed in Michigan libraries for at least 15 years with active MLA membership for at least 10 years can be considered.

Nominations are available from the MLA office (517-694-6615) or from any Award Committee member: Faye Backie (MSU), Mary Cary (Escanaba Public), Jennie Cross (Oakland Schools), William Gosling (UM), Ann Holt (McKune Memorial-Chelsea), Marge LaRose (Detroit Public Library), David Moody (U of D-Mercy), or Carol Wieland (Kent District Library trustee).

## DIRECTORY CHANGES DUE BY APRIL 11

Please check the listing(s) for your library in the 1996-97 *Directory of Michigan Libraries* for accuracy and report any changes prior to this year's **Friday, April 11** copy deadline to Brenda Seaman, Library of Michigan Business Services Division, at 517-373-9452.

♦♦♦ More changes since the 1996-97 **Directory of Michigan Libraries** was published:

**Page City/Library Change**

- 11 Atlanta) Montmorency Co. Lib. Hillman-Wright Br. Add fax same as phone (517-742-4021). Lewiston Branch. Add fax: same as phone (517-786-2985).
- 15 Canton Public Library. Add TDD: 1-800-649-3777.
- 16 (Cassopolis) Cass District Lib. New director: Marney Cooley started on Jan 1, 1997. She previously was director at Brighton District Library.
- 16 Charlevoix Public Library became a district library as of 1/1/97. This makes 113 Michigan district public libraries.
- 17 (Chelsea) McKune Memorial Library. Change name/type to Chelsea District Library/district. Chelsea is the 114th district library in Michigan.
- 17 Chesterfield Township Library. Change zip code to 48047-1974.
- 18 Constantine Township Library. New fax 616-435-5800.
- 20 Delton District Library director Dorothy Texter retired on December 31.
- 22 Dewitt Public Library. Add TDD: 517-669-3156.
- 26 Galien Township Public Library. New director: Caren Woods.
- 27 Gladwin County Library. New TDD number is 517-435-3981.
- 29 (Grayling) Crawford County Library, Frederic Community Library (branch). Change city/zip to Frederic, MI 49733.. Change director name to Kelly Verlinde. Change hours to: M-Tu 10-5; W-Th 1-5.
- 29 Greenville Public Library. Name change to Flat River Community Library.
- 31 (Hastings) Dowling Public Library. New director: Jennifer L. Walden.
- 32 Homer Public Library. Add

- fax number 517-568-4021.
- 33 Idlewild Public Library. New director: Joan Cook.
- 33 (Ionia) Hall-Fowler Memorial Library. Acting director: Sharon VanEtt.
- 36 Lapeer County Library. Change address for admin. office to 201 Village West Drive, Lapeer 48446-1699. (Office did not move, it just got its own mailbox).
- 37 Lawton Public Library. Director Betty Teall died unexpectedly December 26, 1996.
- 37 (Lexington) Moore Public Library. New director: Marlene Bombard as of March 10.
- 41 Mendon Township Library. New director: Mary E. Terry. Change fax number to 616-496-4635.
- 44 (Nashville) Putnam Public Library. Name change to Putnam District Library.
- 45 (Newberry) Tahquamenon Area School Public Library. New director Sally G. Carlson replaces Bruce Popejoy, who left in July 1996
- 45 North Adams Comm. Library. New director Charlene M. Roberts replaces Beverly Shaw, who left in September, 1996.
- 46 Northville District Library interim director Julie Herrin has been appointed director.
- 48 Pontiac Public Library. Sharon Reid has resigned as director and relocated to Flint Public Library, where she heads circulation/ILL/stacks management.
- 48 Port Austin Township Library. New director: Mary Jaworski. (Former director Bethany Quinn moved to accept a school library position). Change of hours: Sa 10-2 (rest of listing ok).
- 51 Public Libraries of Saginaw. Add TDD: 517-755-9831. Admin Office hours are M-F, 9-5.
- 55 (Tawas City) Iosco-Arenac

District Library. New director is Stephanie Mallak Olson, former director of Three Rivers Pub. Library.

- 56 Vernon District Library. Add TDD: 571-288-2422.
- 59 (Westland) Wm. P. Faust Library. Change phone to 313-326-6123.
- 60 (Whitmore Lake) Northfield Township Area Library. Name correction: Co-director is Vicky (not Vickie) Loyd.
- 62 Detroit Associated Libraries director is Dr Maurice B. Wheeler as of 12/10/96.
- 64 Baker College of Auburn Hills. Send faxes to the attention of Michelle Whalen, library director.
- 67 Kalamazoo College Library. Interim director of libraries and media services is Eleanor H. Pinkham. Susan M. Allen has left Michigan and accepted a position in California.

♦♦♦ **Barbara Brewer** has been named director of the Mid-Peninsula Library Cooperative in Kingsford and began her new duties March 10. She has over 13 years of professional school and public library experience in urban and rural settings. Her most recent position was as director of Polk County Public Library, Columbus, NC. She has a masters in library science from the University of Washington, where she also received a master of arts degree in philosophy. She earlier earned her bachelor of arts degree from Southern Methodist University. Mid-Pen serves libraries in Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Iron, Menominee and Ontonagon counties.

♦♦♦ **Grand Rapids Public Library** is one of 11 institutions that have agreed to collaborate with OCLC in a pilot project to test electronic archiving technology. The working prototype will provide input from users, allowing the study of usage pat-



terns and other issues. Included in the project will be photographs from the Grand Rapids Public Library's Robinson Collection of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League; and items from 10 others.

♦♦♦ **Cliff Haka**

has been appointed director of libraries at Michigan State University, effective February 15. He previously was assistant director for administrative services at MSU.



♦♦♦ **William A. Gosling**, assistant

director for technical services and library systems, has been appointed interim director of the University of Michigan library through June 30, or until a new director is in place. He has been at the U/M Library since 1986.



♦♦♦ **Detroit Co-Ettes** recently presented \$1,000 to the Friends of the Children's Library at Detroit Public Library, beginning a five-year, \$5,000 commitment. Co-Ettes is a 50-year old community service organization primarily for African American high school girls with outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

♦♦♦ **Joan Durrance**, professor at the University of Michigan's School of Information and leader of a Kellogg Foundation pilot project to establish a community information network at Flint Public Library, will be the keynote speaker for a "Power of Online Community Networks" national teleconference on March 24.



## 1997 NATIONAL CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK NOVEMBER 17-23: ANY TIME IS BOOK TIME

Children's Book Council's 1997 **Book Week** materials are now available. This year's theme is **ANY TIME IS BOOK TIME**. From top left: the official poster by Peter Sis (\$8.00); a color-in make-it-yourself popup by Robert Sabuda (25-pack for \$12.00), bookmark with original poem and illustration by Shel Silverstein (100-pack for \$10.00, or 400-pack for \$25.00); t-shirt by Donald Crews (\$15.00); streamers by Brian Pinkney, Ellen Stoll Walsh and Nadine Bernard Westcott (available only as a set for \$9.00) and across the bottom, a frieze by Chris Raschka (\$7.50).

1997 Book Week materials are full-color (except for the bookmark which is one color on four different colored stocks, and the pop-up which is a color-in item), available individually, or as part of the 1997 Book Week Kit. for \$40.00. The 1997 Book Week Kit includes one poster, one frieze, one set of three streamers, 100 bookmarks, 25 pop-ups, and one T-Shirt. Orders under \$25.00 must be prepaid by check or money order, and there is a \$25.00 minimum for credit card orders. Schools, libraries, and other institutions may be billed for orders over \$25.00 when accompanied by purchase order or official letterhead.

To order, send check or money order (plus \$3.50 per order for postage and handling if prepaying; 10% of materials subtotal if billed), payable to the Children's Book Council, Order Department, 568 Broadway, New York, NY 10012.

For further information about the 1997 Book Week and other CBC materials, write to the Children's Book Council, Attn: 1997 Catalog, 568 Broadway, NY, NY 10012, or call (212) 966-1990.



### Would you like "Access" to reach you directly?

If your library's copy of this newsletter does not always reach your desk or is delayed along the way, simply return this slip, giving us your name, title and address, and we'll send a copy directly to you. There is no cost for persons employed by a library, serving on a library board of directors or affiliated as a friend or volunteer at a library. Return to the address below.

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